

REMARKS

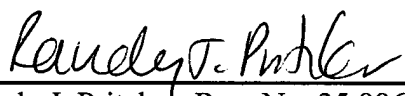
By this amendment, Applicants are canceling claims 1-24 and 31-39 without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, claims 25-30 are currently presented for examination, with claim 25 being the only independent claim.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,
Rainer R. Hadwiger et al., Applicants

By: 
Randy J. Pritzker, Reg. No. 35,986
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2211
Telephone: (617) 720-3500

Docket No. A0312.70496US00
Date: September 10, 2003
xNDDx